FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

7 MAY 1986

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi planes raided southern Tehran 7 May, IRNA announced, noting that the city's oil refinery is located in the bombed area.

In other action, Iranian military camps in Musak, Marivan, Kalaleh, and Sardasht were subjected to Iraqi air raids 6 May, according to a communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio, which asserted that the Iranians sustained "massive" personnel and materiel losses. The communique also reported an Iraqi attack on a "very large maritime target" off the Iranian coast. On the other hand, a military spokesman cited by IRNA claimed that Iraq bombed "civilian areas" in Marivan twice, causing 15 casualties and much structural damage, and warned that Iran will respond to the Iraqi action. Iraqi planes also raided Baneh and Marivan 7 May, the agency reported.

Syrian President's Visit to Jordan

Reporting on President Hafiz al-Asad's departure from Jordan 6 May, Amman radio said the Syrian leader's talks with King Husayn covered ways to obtain a unified Arab stand to confront "all dangers facing the Arab nation," focusing on the need to adopt a coordinated Arab stand to hold a "successful and effective Arab summit" that will tackle all issues of interest to the Arab nation. The two leaders also reviewed ways to promote bilateral relations. The Jordanian information minister likewise told Radio Monte Carlo that Al-Asad and Husayn held "very important" discussions that dealt with "better coordination to convene an Arab summit." Earlier, the Amman daily *SAWT AL-SHA'B* viewed the talks as an attempt to "break the ice" in bilateral relations, stressing that the meeting should not be viewed as signalling any change in Jordanian and Syrian policies.

For Syria's part, a 7 May *TISHRIN* editorial cited by Damascus radio stressed the need for joint Arab action to confront Israel and the United States, adding that Syria will support "any joint Arab effort" in this regard. Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres commented on the Al-Asad-Husayn talks in remarks cited by *THE JERUSALEM POST, saying he does not expect Jordan* to turn its back on Iraq or allow Syrian missiles on its soil.

Libya

JANA linked the explosions in Tokyo's subway system with Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's earlier "incitement" of the Japanese people to disrupt the "conspiratorial" summit there. In further reaction to the summit's declaration on terrorism, a Foreign Liaison Bureau communique broadcast by Tripoli television condemned that statement's "hypocrisy" in calling Libya a "supporter" of U.S.-defined "terrorism," and maintained that the statement's reference to the Jamahiriyah was a "deliberate" attempt to "justify" the U.S.-UK attack on Libya and to "pass it off." In a message to the Arab League secretary general reported by Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio, the Foreign Liaison Bureau secretary viewed the Tokyo summit statement on terrorism as a "grave escalation" of the U.S.-European-Japanese position, and implored the secretary general to take the "suitable measures," as defined in the Arab League Charter, to "combat" that "fierce attack." In other developments, Tripoli television aired what it alleged was the corpse of a U.S. airman shot down during the attack on Libya, washed up on the Libyan coast. JANA's political editor linked President Reagan's call for a boycott of Libyan oil with the Arab rulers' failure to act on the Jamahiriyah's call to use Arab oil as a "weapon in their war against imperialism and Zionism," and asserted that those rulers failed to understand the importance of oil as a "strategic weapon."

Sudan

Al-Ummah National Party leader Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi was elected prime minister during the 6 May Constituent Assembly session, SUNA reported, noting that Al-Mahdi defeated rivals from the Islamic National Front and the Communist Party by a large margin. The Assembly chose its speaker from Al-Mahdi's party and also elected a 5-member State Council headed by Ahmad al-Mirghani, brother of Democratic Unionist Party leader Muhammad 'Uthman al-Mirghani. The State Council includes only one southerner, according to the agency, which noted earlier that the southern political parties walked out of the session for undisclosed reasons.

Lebanese President in Tunisia

President Amin al-Jumayyil arrived in Tunisia where he was greeted by President Habib Bourguiba and other officials, Beirut Radio reported. Earlier, in remarks broadcast by the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon, former President Camille Sham'un blamed the Syrians for a rocket attack which hit Halat Airport while Al-Jumayyil was boarding the plane there to fly to Tunisia. The recent opening of Halat Airport, in the Christian sector, has been criticized by Muslim leaders.

Palestinian Terrorism

Palestine Liberation Front leader Mahmud 'Abbas told NBC television 5 May that he is planning to carry out operations in the United States, Radio Monte Carlo reported.

In Israel, *THE JERUSALEM POST* revealed that police are holding 20 suspects in connection with a number of terrorist offenses including recent attacks on tourists in Jerusalem. The detainees are thought to be members of Colonel Sa'id Musa Muragha's organization.

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Najibullah Thanks Gorbachev for Congratulations

LD061817 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1530 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] The following message of thanks has been sent to Moscow by Comrade Najibullah, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, addressed to Comrade M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee:

Dear Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich, from the bottom of my heart I express gratitude for your best wishes on my election to the post of general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and for your high assessment of my activities for the victory of the April Revolution.

In this new and important position, relying on the support of the party and people, I will use all my energy to realize the fundamental policy of the PDPA for the achievement of fundamental socioeconomic transformations, defense of the independence, territorial integrity, and national sovereignty of Afghanistan against the counterrevolutionaries, imperialism, and regional reaction, for the consolidation and all-round broadening of cooperation with the Soviet Union and the socialist countries.

The PDPA and the Afghan people are profoundly grateful for the continuing internationalist assistance and support of the CPSU and the generous people of the USSR for revolutionary Afghanistan. We highly value this assistance and decisively express support for the Soviet Union's peaceful policy aimed at preventing nuclear catastrophe and achieving peace and consolidation of peace in the world, and the restoration of independence and independent progress of all people.

I earnestly state that the friendly relations and productive and all-round cooperation between our countries, will, in the future too, honestly serve the long-term interests of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union, peace and security in the region, and in the world.

I wish you dear Comrade Mikhail Sergeyvich, the CPSU, and all members of the great party of Lenin, further victories in implementing the formidable constructive duties raised in the 27th historic congress of the CPSU in the field of even further socioeconomic development of the USSR, in the struggle for peace, and in removing the nuclear danger.

With due respect,
[Signed] Najib, Kabul 6 May 1986

BBC Reports Tight Security As Karmal Ousted

BK061307 London BBC World Service in English 1200 GMT 6 May 86

[From the "Radio Newsreel" program]

[Text] The change of leadership in Afghanistan came after considerable speculation that President Babrak Karmal had fallen out of favor with the Soviet Union. But the authorities in Kabul went to great pains to emphasize that his replacement by the 39-year-old state security chief, Mr Najibullah, was because of ill health and not for any political or other reason. Reports since then, however, suggest he was deposed. The Soviet authorities certainly took considerable precautions to ensure that the changeover did not lead to unrest. All key points, including Afghan Army barracks, were apparently guarded by Soviet troops with tanks. Alex Brodie reports from Islamabad:

[Begins Brodie recording] The story of 4 tense days in Kabul began on Thursday [1 May] with the reported return of Babrak Karmal from a still unexplained month's away in the Soviet Union. Early the following morning, 2 May, the main government and party buildings — where, it subsequently transpired, a meeting was being held of the Central Committee of ruling Communist Party — had been closed off. Western diplomatic sources in Islamabad, quoting reports from Kabul, say Soviet troops with tanks were in great evidence. Most of the Afghan soldiers were unarmed. The diplomats say Soviet troops also surrounded Afghan Army barracks and Radio Afghanistan, and Soviet tanks were positioned on most accessible hilltops, their guns pointing into the city. One diplomatic source said Soviet airborne troops took up positions guarding Soviet housing, the embassy, and a hospital. Another said tanks were outside the Ministry of the Interior, the headquarters of Golabzoy, whom the diplomats say is a the supporter of the Khalq [People's] faction of the ruling party and an opponent of the new party leader, Najibullah, who like his predecessor is from the Parcham [Flag] faction. There were no newspapers for this whole period and neither radio nor television gave any explanation until Sunday evening when the leadership change was announced. There appears to have been no resistance to the change at the top, though diplomatic sources say they have reports of some pro-Babrak Karmal demonstrations, including one by female students, after the change was announced. All were reported to have been swiftly broken up. Security was said to have relaxed by Monday — yesterday [5 May] — though there were still a large number of troops on the streets, but they were Afghans and once again armed. [end recording]

Revolutionary Council Discusses Karmal's Position

OW061053 Tokyo KYODO in English 1033 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] Islamabad, May 6 KYODO — Afghanistan's highest decision-making body, the 150-man Revolutionary Council, was in session till Monday in Kabul to "discuss the post of president," Western diplomatic sources said Tuesday. They indicated that President Babrak Karmal, who was stripped of his powerful position of Communist Party chief Sunday, might lose his ceremonial presidency also.

According to these sources, the Revolutionary Council meeting was being held at the "Arg Palace," official residence of the Afghan president, amid unprecedented security arrangements and it was not certain whether Karmal was present at the meeting. However, diplomats were positive that Karmal did not attend the party plenum meeting on Sunday which decided on his ouster as Communist Party boss.

Sources said ever since Babrak Karmal's return from Moscow last Thursday, there were indications in Kabul that some thing new was in the offing. Immediately after Karmal's return, security forces began closing off main sections of Kabul including the

Arg presidential palace, offices of the prime minister and Soviet Embassy. On Saturday, Soviet airborne troops and armor took up positions around the Mikroryon Soviet housing complex, Soviet hospital and Russian Embassy. Tanks were also stationed at the main entrance of the Bala Hisar fortress, though Kabul radio and TV gave no hint of what was happening.

When telex and telephone lines went out of order on Sunday, rumors swept Kabul that Karmal had died, but finally, after a three-day tense party plenum meeting, the announcement was made Sunday that Karmal had been replaced as party chief by security chief Najibollah.

U.S. Seeks 'To Disrupt' Geneva Talks

LD050855 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0433 GMT 5 May 86

[Text] Kabul, May 4, BAKHTAR — A political observer of BAKHTAR writes: R. Peak, US assistant under secretary of state, stated at one of the sessions of the House of Representatives of that country that Washington finances the undeclared war conducted by the Afghan counter-revolution against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. His statements are indicative of the fact that Washington strives to preclude the political solution of the situation around Afghanistan, and to carry on the sanguinary undeclared war against the DRA. The representative of the US Department of State persisted upon the promotion of effectiveness of so-called resistence of the cutthroat hands against the DRA. According to political and press observers of the world, the undeclared war against the DRA has been promoted to a high level, and President Ronald Reagan, and William Casey, chief of the CIA play the main role in this sphere.

With the announcement of more military assistance to the Afghan counter-revolution and providing of Stinger rockets to them, the Reagan administration proved that Washington does not want that the situation around Afghanistan be solved politically and peacefully while the Washington Administration supports by word the political solution of the situation around Afghanistan, in practice, it impudently announces more military assistance to the counter-revolutionaries.

In addition to providing Stinger rockets to the Afghan counter-revolution, the Washington administration furnishes over 470 million dollars military assistance to them in the current year. This collusion with the counter-revolutionary hands has caused the indignation and hatred of political circles of the world.

The statements of the representative of the US Department of State took place at such a time that talks between Afghanistan and Pakistan is being held in Geneva. The statements are indicative of the fact that the Reagan administration strive to disrupt the atmosphere of political talks between the two countries.

Provinces Add 'Deceived Patriots' to Forces

LD022157 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 2 May 86

[Text] One hundred and twenty-five deceived compatriots, who were linked to the Haraka-e Enqelab-e Eslami band and Gulbuddin band, recently joined the security forces in Jowzjan and Faryab Provinces. They brought their weapons and leaders, Balech Palawan, Qurban Palawan, and Rahim Palawan, taking advantages of the Revolutionary Council Presidium's amnesty decree and message and resolutions of Loya Jirga and High Jirga for Tribes.

By regretting their past, they pledged not to spare any patriotic efforts to defend the revolution's outcome and to struggle against the savage counterrevolutionary elements.

Riyadh: Mujahidin Kill 19 Officers in Qandahar

GF030613 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 3 May 86

[Text] The Afghan mujahidin have announced that they launched a rocket attack on the city of Qandahar last Tuesday during the CPSU's festivals marking the eighth anniversary of the taking of power by the Communists. The attack killed 19 officers and Communist Party officials who were taking part in the festivals.

Western sources said that in retaliation for the mujahidin's attack, Soviet Air Force and artillery launched an attack against a number of Afghan villages, killing eight civilians and six mujahidin.

Ershad Addresses Nation on Election Eve

BK061649 Dhaka Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] The Jatiya Sangsad [parliament] elections tomorrow and the president says it will be a historic mandate for establishing democracy in the country. [sentence as heard] In an address to the nation on the eve of the parliamentary polls a short while ago, he said it will herald a strong national unity and create a [word indistinct] democratic consciousness and values among all strata of people. President Ershad said through this election the people are getting an opportunity to send their representatives to the national parliament who will enact laws and decide the fate of the nation. He said the political sagacity of our people is well known and they have never committed mistakes in taking right decisions. He expressed the hope that this time also the people will demonstrate their farsightedness and sagacity by giving their verdict in favor of honest, dedicated, patriotic and democratic-minded persons to reflect their hopes and aspirations in parliament.

The president said all necessary steps have already been taken to hold the elections in free, fair, and peaceful atmosphere. The entire administration has been playing an absolutely neutral role and will continue to do so for holding of the elections smoothly. President Ershad said the nation is aware of the circumstances that compelled him to take reins of administration 4 years ago. The present government has been able to prove that it is completely a different and exceptional type of martial-law government. It enjoyed the overwhelming support, cooperation, and goodwill of the people. Its prime objective was to achieve over-all welfare of the people and the country. The Constitution was not abrogated. Freedom of speech and press was not only upheld but was also ensured.

He said the present government at the same time has succeeded in giving the nation a new political, economic, and social direction. A new horizon of prospects and promises has been opened up. Epoch-making reforms were carried out in all wings of national life to erase the centuries-old ignominy and despair. The country now occupies a respectable position in the comity of nations. These successes were achieved as a result of the concerted efforts and striving of the people, the Armed Forces, and the civil administration.

President Ershad said this martial-law government is conscious of its sacred responsibility to restore to the people their democratic rights. He said the long-awaited and expected parliamentary elections are the vindication of his pledge. The president conveyed good wishes to political parties and condidates who have demonstrated their sense of historic awareness and responsibility to the nation in making the process of transmission to democracy a success.

He said democracy makes the people conscious about their rights and responsibilities. Tolerance and respect for others' opinion are the fundamental (?core) of democratic norms. The country and the people are above a party and individual. Holding of the elections in a disciplined, peaceful manner is an acid test of democracy.

The president expressed his earnest belief that, with the cooperation of all irrespective of the opinion, the people will succeed in this test. President Ershad also expressed his gratitude to the Almighty Allah for his [word indistinct] mercy for enabling him to redeem the pledge given to the nation. He appealed to the people to prove once again that no victory is unattainable for a nation which is ever ready for any sacrifice for its independence and sovereignty.

Awami Chief Criticizes Country's Economic Policy

BK011605 Dhaka Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 1 May 86

[Text] The Awami League chief, Sheikh Hasina, has called upon the people to exercise their franchise judiciously to help establish a government of the people in the country. Addressing public meetings in Jessore and Khulna today, she criticized the present government's policy of disinvesting the nationalized industries. The Awami League chief alleged that the purchasing power of the people has gone down because of faulty economic policy of the government.

Foreign Secretary Appointed Envoy to India

BK291724 Dhaka Overseas Service in English
1230 GMT 29 Apr 86

[Text] The Bangladesh Government has appointed the foreign secretary, Mr Faruq Ahmed Chowdhury, as the country's high commissioner to India. He is expected to take over his new assignment in New Delhi by the first week of June.

Bomb Explodes; Afghan 'Secret Agent' Suspected
BK061241 Hong Kong AFP in English 1230 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] Islamabad, May 6 (AFP) — Six people were killed and 18 seriously injured in separate bomb blasts Tuesday in Pakistan's Northwest Frontier Province bordering Afghanistan, police said. An explosion in a passenger bus at Naguman village, 15 kilometers (nine miles) north of Peshawar, left four people dead and 16 injured, they said. An unofficial toll put the number of dead at seven. Police said they suspected the bomb was planted by an Afghan secret agent who had infiltrated the refugee community, as an Afghan was seen getting off the bus shortly before the blast. The second bomb was thrown by unknown person into a house at Darban village south of Peshawar overnight, killing two and injiring two, they said.

2 Killed, 13 Injured
BK061529 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] Two women were killed and 13 others injured today in a bombing in a bus at the Naguman bus stop, 15 kilometers from Peshawar. The injured, including two children and seven women, were rushed to the hospital. The acting governor of Northwest Frontier Province, Mr Justice S. Osman Ali Shah, and Chief Minister Arbab Mohammad Jahangir Khan have expressed deep anguish and sorrow at this tragic incident and extanded sympathy from to the bereaved families.

Geneva Indirect Talks on Afghanistan Considered
BK070547 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 7 May 86

[Text] The seventh round of UN-sponsored indirect talks for a political settlement of the Afghanistan problem continued in Geneva for a second day yesterday. The UN secretary general's personal representative on Afghanistan, Mr Diego Cordovez, met with the Pakistan foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, and other members of the Pakistani delegation for about an hour. He also had a meeting with the Karmal administration's foreign minister, Shah Mohammad Dost, for approximately the same length of time. Later, Cordovez had another round of talks with the two parties and exchanged views with them on various alternative proposals made in the revised draft of the fourth instrument.

According to ASSOCIATED PRESS OF PAKISTAN, detailed discussions were held on the interim program for the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan. The news agency says a discussion has been initiated now on every (?paragraph) of the nine sections of the fourth and the final instrument for the settlement pertaining to the timeframe for the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan and associated matters.

According to APP, Pakistan first wants to have the date fixed soon for completing the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan. Pakistan has reiterated its stand that there must be a simultaneous implementation of the three other instruments of the comprehensive agreement on foreign forces, international guarantees, noninterference, and return of refugees with dignity and safety.

It is understood that the Karmal administration's representative has suggested a prolonged and a vague timeframe for the withdrawal of Soviet forces although he is ready to resolve the date for beginning the pullout of Soviet forces from Afghanistan. According to APP, due to the unreasonable attitude of the Karmal administration's representative, there should not be great expectations for a comprehensive settlement during the current round of talks. A Pakistani correspondent said any agreement on three or four sections in the seventh round of talks in Geneva would be a big achievement.

Meanwhile, Pakistan has refused to make any comment on the leadership change in Afghanistan — which has the support of the Soviet Union — and its impact on the Geneva talks. According to the program, there should have been one more round of talks yesterday.

Afghan Mujahidin Explode Ammunition Depot; 8 Dead
BK061117 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say mujahidin killed eight Soviet troops when they blasted an ammunition depot of Soviet-Karmal troops in Samangan. According to delayed reports, the Soviet-Karmal forces launched an attack on mujahidin center near the border town of (Hom). The mujahidin, after fierce fighting, pushed the forces back. In another attack on a military post in Shinwar area of Nangarhar Province, the mujahidin killed a number of Soviet-Karmal troops and destroyed a tank.

NEPAL

AFP Reports on Arrest of Suspected Bombers

BK061556 Hong Kong AFP in English 1548 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] Katmandu, May 6 (AFP) — Sixteen people carrying bombs have been arrested in Nepal, official sources said here Tuesday.

Thirteen suspected terrorists were arrested Sunday [5 May] at Bhairahawa some 390 kilometers (240 miles) southwest of Katmandu and several powerful bombs were seized, the sources said.

After they had given statements, police arrested 3 other people in Katmandu Sunday.

The government-controlled radio and television stations said in a newsflash Tuesday that members of an anti-monarchist group led by Ram Raja Prasad Singh had been arrested, but gave no further details.

Police believed that the 16 people arrested had been planning to disrupt general elections scheduled for Monday.

Suspects arrested after several bomb attacks in the Terai region bordering India's Bihar State in March had reportedly told police that a series of bombings was planned to protest the holding of elections under the 25 year-old partyless Panchayat system.

Masked groups attacked 3 police posts in Katmandu last week and scattered anti-election leaflets.

Following these attacks and Sunday's arrests, security police have been on duty day and night guarding public places in Katmandu, and late-night traffic is checked.

Two major opposition parties, which are both banned, have called for a boycott of the polls.

Ram Raja Prasad Singh claimed responsibility for a series of bomb attacks in June which left at least 8 people dead.

More than 50 people are currently on trial in connection with the bombings.

SRI LANKA

Fifteen Reported Dead in Colombo Explosion

BK070508 Hong Kong AFP in English 0505 GMT 7 May 86

[Text] Colombo, May 7 (AFP) — An explosion rocked the heart of Colombo's commercial district Wednesday, with witnesses saying that at least 15 people were feared dead and as many as 50 wounded.

There was no official toll immediately available after the blast, which damaged an old building of the Telecommunications and Telegraph Department.

But one news photographer at the scene said that at least 15 people appeared to have died in the explosion. "I helped pull some of them out from under the debris," he said.

Witnesses said that at least 30 people, including many women, were injured in the explosion. Some put the number of casualties at about 50, based on the people seen streaming out of the damaged building.

TELO Leader Killed by Rival Tamil Group

BK061532 Hong Kong AFP in English 1528 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] Colombo, May 6 (AFP) — The leader of a militant Tamil separatist group was killed Tuesday [6 May] in northern Sri Lanka by a rival militant group, local residents said.

The leader of the Tamil Eelam Liberation Organisation (TELO), Sri Sabaratnam, was killed in the village of Kondavi in the Jaffna peninsula by members of the rival hardline Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), residents said. There was no immediate official confirmation of the report.

(In Madras, a TELO spokesman said Tuesday that LTTE members had shot dead Mr. Sabaratnam in Jaffna Monday [5 May].

(The spokesman said that the TELO leader had been killed at a camp belonging to the Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRLF), a third militant Tamil group.)

Last week, the LTTE attacked the TELO, destroying 15 of its bases in the Jaffna peninsula and killing more than 100 TELO members, official sources said. Some 25 LTTE members also died.

The LTTE and TELO had blamed each other for the eruption of the battle, which ended Saturday [3 May].

(Mr. Sabaratnam had gone underground after the TELO hideout in the island's Kalliyankadu town was besieged by the rival group's fighters in what a TELO spokesman had called a "well-planned plot" to liquidate the militant leader, the TELO spokesman said in Madras.

(The LTTE Tigers were jealous of the TELO's "growing popularity" with Indian authorities, the spokesman had earlier told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE, and were determined to assassinate Mr. Sabaratnam.

(The LTTE said the TELO was upset by the overwhelming support given by the people of the Tamil-dominated Jaffna region to the LTTE.

(The TELO was the only one of 21 Tamil separatist groups to enjoy official Indian patronage, observers said in Madras.)

A section of Sri Lanka's 2.5 million strong Tamil minority has been waging a frequently violent campaign for a separate state in the north and east, complaining of discrimination by the Sinhala majority. India has been acting as mediator to try to reach a negotiated settlement in Sri Lanka.

Death Confirmed

BK070453 Hong Kong AFP in English 0444 GMT 7 May 86

[Excerpt] Colombo, May 7 (AFP) — The leader of a Tamil separatist group was shot to death on Tuesday [6 May] by rival militants in northern Sri Lanka, official sources confirmed today. Sri Sabaratnam, the leader of the Tamil Eelam Liberation Organisation (TELO), was killed by members of the hardline group, Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) who then burned his body, the sources said.

Official spokesmen for both TELO and the LTTE have denied reports of Mr Sabaratnam's death.

But intelligence sources told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that the TELO leader, nicknamed "Tall Sri," was killed at a tobacco plantation in the village of Kondavi in the Jaffna peninsula.

The sources said that an LTTE "hit squad" was led to Mr Sabaratnam's hideout by his former second-in-command, identified as "Mohan," who was captured by the LTTE and forced to reveal his leader's whereabouts.

The TELO leader, surprised in his sleep, was hit with a hail of gunfire after he stepped out of his hiding place with his hands held high, the sources said. An unidentified lieutenant of Mr Sabaratnam's was also killed, they said.

The rival LTTE had been searching for Mr Sabaratnam since a factional war erupted between the two groups early last week. At least 150 people, including more than 100 TELO members and 25 Ltte militants, have died in six days of fighting, official sources said.

Delhi Reports Death

BK070344 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 7 May 86

[Text] In Sri Lanka, the leader of the Tamil militant group, Mr Sabaratnam, and more than 20 other supporters were killed yesterday in the continuing conflict between rival militant groups in the northern part of the island. Clashes have been continuing between two Tamil militant groups for the last 10 days.

President Jayewardene has said that if the government (?comes to an) agreement on the ethnic issue it will be implemented at any cost.

Addressing the government parliamentary group in Colombo he said there is a difference of opinion in reaching an accord on the ethnic issue because of the demand for amalgamation of provincial councils.

Intruder Dressed As Pilot Arrested at Airport

BK061135 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] Barely 48 hours after the explosion on board Air Lanka's Tristar jet, security at Colombo airport was breached once again yesterday when an intruder in a pilot uniform walked into the Air Lanka workshop.

The man, who was identified as (Sachitanand Senamutthu Kumaraswamy), was apprehended and handed over to CID [Criminal Investigation Department] detectives yesterday.

Two Air Lanka employees of the airport alleged to have aided the suspect had also been taken in for questioning.

The suspect, (Kumaraswamy), a resident of Colombo, is known to have told detectives that he had been a frequent visitor to the airport and had also taken photographs. Educated at a leading school in the Colombo suburb, the suspect had a student pilot license and a complete Air Lanka pilot uniform.

The Criminal Investigation Department or CID is attempting to ascertain whether this suspect had any connection in Saturday's [3 May] bomb blast.

This is the first arrest made by the CID since the Bomb explosion on Saturday [3 May]

Iraqi Planes Hit Downtown Tehran

LD070821 Tehran IRNA in English 0815 GMT 7 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 7, IRNA — Iraqi planes violated the airspace of Tehran Wednesday morning and hit a point in downtown city.

The attack in southern Tehran took place at about 11:10 local time (07:40 GMT) and Tehran radio sounded alert siren. Soon afterwards the situation returned to normal.

The last Iraqi air raid on Tehran was carried out last year on Al-Quds Day (June 14) following a series of air raids on Iranian cities.

There were no immediate reports on possible casualties or damage.

Refinery in Area of Bombing

LD070939 Tehran IRNA in English 0931 GMT 7 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 7, IRNA — Invading Iraqi planes violated the airspace in the southern suburb of Tehran and hit an area at about 07:40 GMT Wednesday morning. A thick smoke welled into the air subsequently but there were no immediate reports on the exact location of the attack or possible casualties or damage. The Tehran refinery is located in the bombed area.

Iraq last Tuesday bombarded residential areas in two areas in Bakhtaran Province in the west of the country leaving a number of civilian casualties.

Simultaneously with a visit to the bombed areas in Bakhtaran by a U.N. team of experts, Iraqi planes twice bombed the Kurdish town of Marivan in Kurdestan Province Tuesday martyring and wounding 15 people.

Following renewed Iraqi atrocities, the War Information Headquarters of the Supreme Defence Council warned the Baghdad regime against retaliation. It said Iran's Islamic combatants will not leave these inhuman Iraqi crimes unanswered.

Tehran Notes Karmal's 'Dismissal' From Party Post

LD051316 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 5 May 86

[Text] Twenty-four hours before the start of the seventh round of talks on Afghanistan in Geneva — which will start today with the participation of the foreign ministers of Pakistan and the Kabul regime, under the supervision of the representative of the UN secretary-general — Kabul radio announced the dismissal of Babrak Karmal from the leadership of the Marxist regime of Afghanistan. The radio added: Karmal will remain as the head of the ruling Revolutionary Council.

Karmal, who had been in Moscow for the past 2 months on an unofficial visit, returned to Kabul a few days ago. He was dismissed from his post yesterday. According to report received from Kabul, the dismissal of Babrak Karmal, who came to power on 27 December 1979, simultaneous with the military invasion of more than 100,000 Soviet troops, his illness was announced. [sentence as heard]

The report adds: Following the dismissal of Babrak Karmal, another member of the Central Committee of the ruling party, Najibullah — former head of the Kabul regime's espionage organization, KHAD — has been appointed Karmal's successor.

Informed sources believe that Kremlin officials played an effective role in the dismissal of Babrak Karmal from the leadership of the Kabul regime.

Meanwhile, in his first speech, following his appointment as the new head of the Kabul regime, Najibullah called for the strengthening of the regime's armed forces and the expansion of relations with the Soviet Union.

It should be pointed out that some time ago, Soviet press started a campaign of tacit criticism of Karmal. Following his unexpected trip to Moscow, rumors of his possible dismissal were spread. On the other hand, the dismissal of Babrak Karmal after 6 years, 8 months and 9 days, as the head of the puppet regime of Kabul, on the threshold of the seventh round of talks on Afghanistan, in Geneva, shows that with this action the Soviet Union seeks a political solution to the issue of Afghanistan, provided a Marxist regime remains in power in Afghanistan.

President Khamene'i Castigates Tokyo Summit

LD061618 Tehran IRNA in English 1542 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 6, IRNA — President 'Ali Khamene'i Tuesday castigated the Tokyo summit meet of the seven heads of states of major industrialized countries for their condemnation of Libya, saying "why do they not condemn the Reagan administration if they want to denounce terrorism." Asked the president, "in accordance with which international regulation does the U.S. attack a small country like Libya with over one hundred war planes dropping bombs on Libyan people as well as foreign embassies in an attempt to kill a person (Libyan leader)?"

He made the remarks in a meeting with officials of civil aviation organization during which he also said that the decision of the Tokyo summiteers to condemn Libya was based on a policy of bullying. The United Nations and its related organizations including Amnesty International and the organization for human rights remained silent vis-a-vis the U.S. aggression against Libya because such bodies never attack the interests of the developing nations into consideration. "They are afraid of the neo-colonialist powers," he said. Khamene'i, who is also head of the Supreme Defence Council, denounced the U.S. for its history of interference in Latin America and the Third World, saying that the Tokyo resolution in all honesty should have named the U.S. and Reagan as the most hated supporters and users of terrorism in the world.

The staff of the civil aviation organization (CAO) also donated a total of rials 38 billion (about dollars 47,000) for the war fronts. Khamene'i furthermore lauded the CAO staffers for their contribution to the war fronts of the Iraqi imposed war.

In another meeting with a group of security officials of the Islamic Revolution's Guard Corps (IRGC) Tuesday, the president urged the solidarity of the oppressed world nations against global arrogance. He said the resolution of the Tokyo summit showed their hastiness and that they were so vulnerable despite all their equipments. The president said the resolution should have condemned the U.S. and Reagan because they attacked Grenada, supplied arms to Nicaragua's counterrevolutionaries and helped the ugliest terrorists of the world. "France qualifies as a terrorist for giving refuge to (Iranian) counterrevolutionaries and for aiding them," he said, "and likewise America which aids and abets the torture against the Palestinian nation and for supporting the Zionist regime and its leaders who are among the world's most disgraceful figures."

Elsewhere in his speech, the president stressed that the role of the IRGC security officials was very sensitive and delicate. He further praised their significant role at the IRGC and their outstanding services at the operational regions.

Khamene'i Meets With Broadcasting Officials
LD061028 Tehran IRNA in English 0625 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] Tehran, 6 May IRNA — President 'Ali Khamene'i here Monday received members of the supervising council of the Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting (RIB) accompanied by the managing director of the organization, Mohammad Hashemi. During the meeting the president was informed of the programs and problems of the IRIB. President Khamene'i called for greater efforts to further improve Islamic and revolutionary quality of radio and TV programs and talked about their crucial role in the society. He also referred to the importance of training committed specialists for radio and television.

Musavi Discusses Taxation, Economic Independence
LD061259 Tehran IRNA in English 1037 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 6, IRNA — Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi said here Tuesday that Iran's policy was not based on fearing from or reconciling with the big powers. Rather, he stressed, the neither East nor West policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran relied on determination of the people. Speaking at the second session of the seminar on taxing policies of the country, the prime minister referred to the achievement of economic independence.

To this end, he added, the country should rid itself of being dependent on oil revenues and further rely on non-oil products. He said that it was at his point where the importance of taxation becomes clear. The prime minister said that the constitutional law of the Islamic Republic of Iran strived to remove imbalances and to this end taxation is one of the most effective measures. The seminar will continue its work Wednesday morning and afternoon.

Deputy Foreign Minister Leaves for Sweden
LD051449 Tehran IRNA in English 1420 GMT 5 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 5, IRNA — Political Deputy Foreign Minister Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam departed for Sweden Sunday night for an official visit at the invitation of the Swedish Foreign Ministry. Expansion of relations between Iran and northern European countries will figure prominently in the talks. The deputy foreign minister will meet Swedish premier and foreign minister in addition to others and will discuss promotion of Tehran-Stockholm trade exchanges and international cooperation. Sweden is among those countries which have adopted logical stances against Iraq's infringment of international conventions and laws in the course of the Iraqi-imposed war.

In the continuation of his tour, Sheykh ol-Eslam will visit Hungary in response to a visit by his Hungarian counterpart Gabor Nagy to Tehran last November. He will discuss the expansion of Tehran-Budapest relations and international issues with Hungarian officials.

SDR Minister on Results of Tehran Visit
GF070646 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 7 May 86

[Excerpts] Seyyed Ahmad Batal, education minister of the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic [SDR], now visiting our country, commented on the aim of his visit to Iran. He said: Our visit to Iran is part of the traditional exchange of visits between officials of the Iranian and SDR revolutions and symbolizes the good relations existing between them, along with the solidarity and brotherhood that stems from their revolutionary ideals. This visit has served to further expand relations between our two countries in the fields of education, as education is the basis for preparing youth to value the ideals of Jihad and God in their struggle against satans and oppressors.

The SDR education minister said: We have felt in this visit the power of the Islamic revolution and the real changes that it has brought about in this country. We believe that this visit will have deep effects in relations between our two revolutions.

The minister said the SDR Education Ministry is a spearhead for struggle against the satanic powers, the oppressors, and the king of Morocco. Our nation has suffered much under the oppression of King Hassan II of Morocco.

The education minister, commenting on Iraqi aggression against Iran, said: When the Islamic reolution succeeded in Iran the imperialists persuaded the Iraqi regime to carry out its dastardly attack on the Islamic revolution in order to check the spread of the revolution to other Islamic countries. We, as we have said before, condemn this aggression against the sovereignty of the Iranian nation and its revolution.

Referring to the U.S. aggression against Libya and the failure of the Arab foreign ministers' conference in Morocco, he said: The savage U.S. attack against Libya was an illegal act and violated international law and traditions.

Commenting on cooperation in the field of education between Iran and the SDR, he said: Cooperation in this field is progressive and we hope that this visit will result in greater and more rewarding cooperation between our two countries.

Concludes Visit

GF070718 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 7 May 86

[Text] Mr Seyyed Ahmad Batal, education minister of the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic, left Tehran today following several days of meetings with Iranian officials. He was seen off by Education Minister Akrami. Before leaving, Mr Seyyed Ahmad Batal, while reviewing his visit to Iran, said his visit was successful. He expressed the hope that relations between the two countries will further expand.

Turkish Consular Official Arrives in Tehran

GF070652 Tehran International Service in Turkish 1830 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] Recep Eryan, director general of the Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs Consular Affairs Department, arrived in Tehran yesterday at the head of a delegation of experts from the ministries of foreign affairs, interior, and justice. The visit has been organized at the invitation of the director general of the Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs Consular Affairs Department. The accomodation and [words indistinct] of students will be discussed during the visit.

Iran, Zimbabwe Expand Trade Relations

LD021716 Tehran IRNA in English 1540 GMT 2 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 2, IRNA — Zimbabwean commerce minister Oliver Munyaradzi Thursday lauded the Islamic Republic for its efforts to promote and expand trade with the Third World countries. In a meeting with a visiting Iranian delegation headed by 'Ali Fathali, the head of Iran's foodstuff procurement and distribution center, in Harare Thursday, the Zimbabwean commerce minister announced his country's preparedness to expand relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran. At the meeting, the two sides also discussed the volume of trade between the two countires and Iran agreed to import tea and corn from Zimbabwe.

The visit followed an official visit by Iran's President 'Ali Khamene'i to Harare and recent talks between Zimbabwean and Iranian foreign ministers in Tehran.

Industry Minister Receives Hungarian Envoy

LD281531 Tehran IRNA in English 1430 GMT 28 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 28, IRNA — Hungarian Ambassador to Tehran Zsigmond Kazmer in a meeting with Industries Minister Gholamreza Shafe'i here Monday condemned the U.S. for having imposed economic and political pressure on Iran. At the meeting the Hungarian minister extended an invitation to Shafe'i to visit Budapest and also announced that his country was prepared to cooperate with Iran in the fields of electronics, car, chemical, and pharmaceutical industrial.

In response, Shafe'i reiterated that from now on, Iran's economic relations with other countries would be based on extensive cooperation with them in building industrial projects rather than oil exports. He said Iran would try to expand its economic relations with Hungary on the basis of this principle. The industries minister also accepted the invitation to pay a visit to Hungary and said grounds for Tehran-Budapest cooperation in production of foodstuffs, minerals, chemical, and pharmaceutical items were good.

Heavy Industries Ministry Details Current Projects

LD061252 Tehran IRNA in English 0820 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] Tehran, 6 May IRNA — The Ministry of Heavy Industries in a report to the cabinet ministers session Monday outlined its current projects. The report listed projects of the ministry which are underway, including those to develop iron industries with a budget of 246 billion rials (about U.S. $3 billion) to be completed in two years. The annual production capacity of the industry will be 55,000 tons of iron pipes, sheets and cords. By completion of the project the country will annually save U.S. $110 million in foreign exchange.

The "Azarab" project, said to be one of the major industrial projects, producing machinery needed for refineries, power plants and cement and sugar industries, will become operational next year. According to the report the Azarab project to be put into test operation this year will create some 2,200 jobs and enable the country to save U.S. $60 million in foreign exchange annually.

The project to expand "Hepco", engaged in production of heavy machineries such as bulldozers, lift trucks, loaders and devices needed in road building, mines, ports and irrigation projects will be completed in two years time. After becoming operational the project will annually save some U.S. $125 million in foreign exchange, said the report.

The report also included "the Persian Gulf Ship Building Project", some 70 percent of work of which has been completed. The plant will manufacture two 20,000-ton ships, and repair some hundred and seven 70,000-ton ships a year. The project, to be completed in two years time, will annually save U.S. $50 million in foreign exchange, the report added.

And finally, "Iran Casting Project," to produce 3,600 diesel engines, will be a big step in making the country self-sufficient in engines needed for trucks, buses and vans.

The ministry will actively participate in meeting the needs of the defence industries during the current year and will also make efforts to find markets for its surplus products in the countries of the region and Third World Countries, it concluded.

Death, Damage Toll in Flooding Evaluated

LD061307 Tehran IRNA in English 0915 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] Tehran, may 6, IRNA — Some six tribesmen of Semirom, Esfahan Province, were killed and 150 others were injured due to the recent heavy rainfall, a spokesman for Esfahan Red Crescent Society said Tuesday. He added that so far 500 tribal families have been affected by the flood and 6,000 of their livestock which were killed in the flood. The spokesman said that since the roads to the flood-stricken areas are cut off relief operations are underway and first-aid is sent to the area by helicopters.

Meanwhile, over 30 houses and 45 hectares of farming lands were damaged in the city of Hamedan, Hamedan Province, due to heavy rainfall of the past few days. Twenty-six houses in Malayer, another city of the province, and 20 others in the nearby villages were damaged, four bridges were destroyed and 30 others were damaged.

End to Kuwait, Saudi Arabia Iraq Aid Demanded

LD061849 Tehran IRNA in English 1730 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] Tehran, 6 May, IRNA — Head of the War Information Headquarters (WIH) Dr Kamal Kharrazi Tuesday warned those countries supporting the Ba'athist Iraqi regime to give up their support and not mar their relations with Iran for the criminal ruler Saddam Husayn. Speaking in a press conference here Tuesday, the WIH head said that Washington was forcing rulers of small Persian Gulf states to support the Iraqi regime. He said that U.S. was gravely concerned over the eventual overthrow of the Baghdad government and was pressuring Saudi Arabia and Kuwait to continue their assitance to Iraq, despite the fact that these states, especially Kuwait, were exposed to danger from the Ba'athist regime in Baghdad.

Intelligence leaks from Saudi-Kuwait meetings indicate that the two countries feel woefully menaced by the Baghdad government and the threat it poses to their sovereignty and security. He furthermore called on these states to cease their assistance to this dangerous enemy (Iraqi regime), and that they rest assured that the Islamic republic was merely trying to help them.

On issues of war propagation, the WIH head said that because Iran's defensive war was a popular one, the public should be mobilized and give a free hand to handle the issue independently of the media. "We should prove to the world that we are a steadfast nation that will never abandon our ideals," he said.

On the country's overseas propaganda facilities, Kharrazi described them as scant in comparison with those of the enemies of the Islamic Republic of Iran which boast facilities world-wide. He said the anti-Islamic Iran Western mass media routinely suppress news on Iranian achievements but rush to broadcast any claim of the Iraqi enemy.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Communique No 2,462

LD061752 Tehran IRNA in English 1734 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 6, IRNA — Iranian jet fighters bombed Iraqi helicopter and troop sites in northern Ravanduz (Iraqi) at 10:13 hours Tuesday, inflicting substantial casualties and losses on them. Iranian planes all returned to their bases safely, according to a military communique. Communique number 2,462 of the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces says that Iranian gendarmerie forces opened fire on Iraqi troops in Zubaydat, Bayat and Abadan regions, killing or wounding 10 Iraqi soldiers and halting their engineering operations. The command says that artillery fire of Iranian Muslim combatants on Iraqi positions in the western fronts killed or wounded a number of enemy soldiers and destroyed six bunkers and observation posts of theirs.

Exchange of fire continued in the southern fronts raging somewhat more intensely in Fakkeh and Khorramshahr, the communique says, adding that Iranian artillery fire silenced fire of Iraqi tanks in Nim-Istgah-90 region and inflicted heavy casualties and losses on enemy troops. In Nahre-Anbar, the communique says, movements of Iraqi vehicles and tanks were checked.

The city of Abadan in Khuzestan Province was the target of Iraqi long-range artillery fire Monday as a result of which 13 houses and shops were damaged and one case of fire broke out which was immediately extinguished by firefighters.

Tanks, Ammunition Dumps Destroyed

LD061325 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 6 May 86

[Central News Unit unidentified correspondent's report from the warfront in the Val-Fajr-8 operational theater — date not given; recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The heavy and accurate fire of the Islamic combatants frightens the enemy so much these days that he has no strength to perform any military action or operation. Thanks to the superior firepower of the Islamic forces on the strategic Al-Faw-Basra and Al-Faw-al-Bihar axes and the accurate artillery fire of the Guards Corps and Armed Forces against Iraqi equipment, eight enemy ammunition dumps were set alight and seven enemy tanks were destroyed. The brave combatants in the Val-Fajr-8 operational theatre destroyed a vehicle carrying Saddam's troops and inflicted heavy damage on a 122-mm gun, and anti-aircraft gun, and six vehicles. According to the latest reports received this morning, an enemy tank was destroyed on the Al-Faw-Umm Qasr by the Islamic combatants under the guidance of our eagle-eyed lookouts on the front lines.

Spokesman Denies Shelling Towns

LD061409 Tehran IRNA in English 1205 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] Tehrah, May 6, IRNA — A spokesman for the War Information Headquarters (WIH) here Tuesday categorically

denied Iraqi claims alleging that Iran had shelled Iraqi border cities simultaneously with an inspection tour of the U.N. envoy of Iraqi bombed areas in Bakhtaran. The spokesman stressed that the Iraqi regime had made these baseless allegations at a time when the U.N. envoy was filing reports on its inhumane acts and in a bid to conceal its crimes. He called on the U.N. envoy to release his report on the bombardment of Rahimabad village and Va'avon township to inform public opinion on Iraqi crimes. He also called on the U.N. not to to allow further infringement of international regulations by the Baghdad regime.

Kurds Liquidate Enemy Forces

LD061656 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] According the Central News Unit, reports received from Iraq indicate that the Iraqi Muslim Kurdish peshmerga, in the course of operations around (Bidarin) garrison, in the vicinity of (Gurehteh), north of Irbil Province, destroyed Iraqi armed forces positions and killed eight troops. After the attack, which took place late last Friday [2 May] evening, the Muslim peshmerga set fire to an enemy ammunition store near the town.

Iraqi Planes Attack Marivan

LD061603 Tehran IRNA in English 1555 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] Bakhtaran, May 6, IRNA — The Kurdish city of Marivan in Kordestan Province was attacked twice by invading Iraqi planes Tuesday leaving at least 15 civilian casualties. The first attack was launched at 11.22 hours local time (07:52 GMT) and 13 minutes later an area near the site of the first attack was bombarded again as relief activities to aid the victims were underway. Early reports said seven people have been martyred and eight others wounded. Some 30 houses and shops were also destroyed. These inhuman attacks coincided with the visit Tuesday of a U.N. team to two areas in Bakhtaran Province hit by Iraqi planes last Tuesday which left a number of civilian casualties.

Marivan, Baneh Casualties Total 21

LD071035 Tehran IRNA in English 1025 GMT 7 May 86

[Text] Sanandaj, Kurdistan Prov, Paril 7, IRNA — Iraqi fighters at 10:45 am local time (07:15 gmt) Wednesday raided residential areas in the western border city of Marivan, martyring at least one and injuring several others. Seven houses are reported to have been damaged. In a raid on the other Kurdish City of Baneh, at 11:45 local time (08:15 GMT), three civilians were martyred and 17 others injured. Ten homes are reported to have been damaged.

Retaliation Planned

LD061813 Tehran IRNA in English 1806 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 6, IRNA — The War Information Headquarters [WIH] Tuesday warned that Iran's islamic combatants will not leave unanswered Iraq's latest war crime against innocent civilians. It meanwhile invited the U.N. team of experts stationed in Tehran to visit areas bombarded Tuesday by Iraqi war planes in Iran's western town of Marivan and file a report on this latest enemy atrocity. Civilian areas in the city were attacked twice Tuesday morning as a result of which 15 people were martyred and wounded and tens of shops and houses were destroyed.

Speaking to IRNA, a WIH spokesman expressed regret over the deadly silence of international circles vis-a-vis repeated Iraqi violations of the international conventions. He stressed that "our Islamic combatants will give due response to these desperate Iraqi moves." He said by attacking Marivan, the Baghdad regime not only breached the June 12, 1984 U.N.-sponsored agreement, but also "made fun of the international body's measures" regarding the IAR. "It therefore seems imperative for the U.N. to breach its silence vis-a-vis these Iraqi crimes in an attempt to preserve its prestige," the spokesman added. He also emphasized that the continuing reticence of international organizations towards Iraqi war crimes may compel the Islamic Republic to act directly and prevent the Iraqi forces from committing further crimes. He reminded, however, that the Islamic republic had always refrained from attacking civilian areas and displayed its good will to spare residential quarters from military attacks.

WIH Spokesman Promises Response

LD071122 Tehran IRNA in English 1118 GMT 7 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 7 IRNA — "Adventurism of the Iraqi regime can only be stopped through a firm action," said the War Information Headquarters spokesman, here Wednesday following the latest Iraqi Air raids on the two Kurdish cities of Baneh and Marivan. The Islamic Republic of Iran, he added, "could no longer remain silent towards the Iraqi crimes against residential areas and has to retaliate." Contacted following the Wednesday morning Iraqi raid on Baneh and Marivan which martyred at least four civilians and injured scores of others, the WIH spokesman said that through such crimes and acts of adventurism the Iraqi regime was trying to make up for the blows inflicted on its morally weakened forces. Furthermore, he added, the Iraqi regime by resorting to such atrocities, wanted to satisfy its beastly nature. On the Wednesday morning Iraqi bombardment of the outskirts of Tehran as a result of which oil installations were slightly damaged, he said: "Such actions will never remain unanswered." In response to this desperate attempt of the enemy, he told IRNA "we will teach the Iraqi regime another lesson."

Clandestine Radio Reports Kurdish Fighting

GF061612 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian 1500 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] Kurdish armed combatants have attacked units of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC] in the Baneh-Sardasht area, killing more than 50 of them, taking others prisoner. Acording to a spokesman for the Kurdish Democratic Party, the armed Kurds staged a blitz attack on the IRGC center in the (Robat) and Baneh-Sardasht area, killing dozens of IRGC men and taking a large amount of weaponry as booty.